

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 209

By Fitzhugh

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Matthew Ulysses  
Johnson, Jr. of Memphis.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Mr. Johnson; and

WHEREAS, Matthew U. Johnson, Jr. was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, he served with acumen and alacrity as educator, in which position he earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson was born in New York City and lived in Minnesota and Boston before calling Memphis, Tennessee, home; and

WHEREAS, he spent time as a history teacher and athletic director for North High School in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and as a history teacher at the Memphis Academy of Health Sciences; and

WHEREAS, in addition to teaching, Mr. Johnson served as an area development director for the United Negro College Fund; and

WHEREAS, his community involvement also included coaching youth athletics; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson was a silver life member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, a life member of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, and was involved with the Connecting Link organization; and

WHEREAS, he was an active and devout member of the St. Andrew AME Church in Memphis and Charles Street AME Church in Boston; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Matthew U. Johnson, Jr. enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Carol, and was the proud parent of Christina, Rucker, and Paul; and

WHEREAS, he leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Matthew Ulysses Johnson, Jr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Johnson.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.